



**REGIONAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE  
STRENGTHENING CAPACITY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND  
CLIMATE LAW IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**



**26 May – 1 June, 2018  
Colombo, Sri Lanka**

**ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ELECTRONIC DATABASES**

***(1) General source references (per IUCN and IUCNAEL)***

For a comprehensive database on international treaties and national environmental laws, see **ECOLEX** prepared by the IUCN in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation:

<http://www.ecolex.org/start.php>

**IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law**

The website contains reports, news and extensive links to environmental agreements and organisations.

<http://www.iucn.org/commissions/world-commission-environmental-law>

**IUCN Environmental Law Centre**

The website provides an overview of the projects they are undertaking and the numerous legal resources and guidelines they generate through these projects.

<http://www.iucn.org/theme/environmental-law/about/environmental-law-centre>

**IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas:**

<http://www.iucn.org/about/union/commissions/wcpa/>

**IUCN Protected Areas Law and Governance Learning Resources**

This website provides access to 12 modules and associated learning materials (presentations, exercises, videos) on protected areas law and governance.

<http://www.protectedareaslaw.org/>

**IUCN Academy of Environmental Law** <http://www.iucnael.org>

And see new listing of “Essential Readings” published by the Academy:

<http://www.iucnael.org/en/essential-readings.html>

<http://www.iucnael.org/essentials-readings-in-environmental-law-topics>

**UPDATE: A Basic Guide to International Environmental Legal Research**, published by Globalex for the Hauser Global Law School Program, available at

[http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/International\\_Environmental\\_Legal\\_Research1.html](http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/International_Environmental_Legal_Research1.html)

## ***(2) United Nations and related organisations***

### **United Nations**

<http://www.un.org/>

### **United Nations System of Organization: Links**

Lists all UN organisations in alphabetical order or by theme.

<http://www.unsystem.org/>

### **UNBISnet**

A "comprehensive listing of United Nations documents and publications on law-related topics can be retrieved through the UNBISnet database. UNBISnet provides links to the full text of recent documentation."

<http://unbisnet.un.org/>

### **United Nations International Law Page**

Includes links to international courts, treaties and the Division for Ocean Affairs and Law of the sea.

<http://www.un.org/law/>

### **United Nations Treaty Collection**

Normally, the treaties on this site are not free although some information such as a list of multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General is. However, Sydney University Law Library has a subscription to the treaty collection which staff and students can use via its homepage.

<http://treaties.un.org/Pages/Home.aspx?lang=en>

### **United Nations Economic and Social Development. Division for Sustainable Development**

This site contains documents such as key conferences and resolutions plus links to major agreements and conventions relating to sustainable development.

<http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/>

### **UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (replacing former UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD))**

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/>

### **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) - World Conservation Monitoring Centre**

<http://www.unep-wcmc.org/>. This website provides information on biodiversity and ecosystems as well analysis and reports.

### **Global Environment Facility (GEF)**

UNEP is one of the managing partners of the GEF which "helps developing countries fund projects and programs that protect the global environment." Its areas of speciality are biodiversity, climate change, international waters, land degradation, the ozone layer, and persistent organic pollutants. The web site contains documents such as subject

publications, fact sheets and working papers.

<http://www.gefweb.org/>

### **United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)**

UNESCO.org

<http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php->

[URL ID=29008&URL DO=DO TOPIC&URL SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=29008&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

### **International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS)**

<http://www.international.icomos.org/>

### **World Bank**

The website contains reports, working papers and articles on economic, social and environmental issues. It has an extensive amount of material that is available by subject or country/region.

<http://www.worldbank.org/>

### **International Maritime Organisation**

The website contains access to a broad array of marine conventions, agreements and reports.

<http://www.imo.org/en/Pages/Default.aspx>

### ***(3) International Think Tanks***

#### **World Resources Institute**

WRI is a global research organisation focused on the environment, economics and human well-being.

<http://www.wri.org/>

#### **Worldwatch Institute**

The Worldwatch Institute analyses inter-disciplinary information from around the world, providing information on how to build a sustainable society.

<http://www.worldwatch.org/>

#### **Earth Policy Institute**

Established by Lester Brown, but closed down on 30 June 2016; web-site with many valuable references still maintained via Rutgers University.

<http://www.earth-policy.org/>

### ***(4) International Environmental Law, Conventions and Treaties***

#### **Environmental Treaties and Resource Indicators (ENTRI)**

ENTRI is a cooperative effort for accessing multilateral environmental treaty data run by The Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN). It has contributions from organisations such as IUCN, UNEP and Tufts University's Fletcher

School of Law and Diplomacy.  
<http://sedac.ciesin.org/entri/>

**Introduction to International Environmental Law** by Anne Burnett: an electronic source guide to international environmental law maintained and regularly updated for the American Society of International Law  
[https://www.asil.org/sites/default/files/ERG\\_ENVIROMENT.pdf](https://www.asil.org/sites/default/files/ERG_ENVIROMENT.pdf)

### **International Law Commission**

This site provides access to the documentation, reports, texts and instruments of the Commission.  
<http://legal.un.org/ilc/>

### **EUR-Lex**

Official EU Law portal which provides access to treaties, legislation, case-law and legislative proposals  
<http://eur-lex.europa.eu>

### **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change**

This website contains “official documents and other relevant documentation issued since 1991 as part of the process of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and of the Kyoto Protocol.”  
<http://unfccc.int/2860.php>

### **UNESCO World Heritage Convention**

The World Heritage Centre is “the focal point and coordinator within UNESCO for all matters related to World Heritage.” The web site has the text of the World Heritage Convention plus related documents and links.  
<http://whc.unesco.org/>

### **Convention on Biological Diversity**

This site contains the texts of the [Convention](#) and the [Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety](#) plus extensive official reports and documents relating to biosafety and biodiversity.  
<http://www.biodiv.org/default.shtml>

### **Australian Treaties Database (ATD)**

This “is an on-line resource for researching treaties to which Australia is a signatory, or where Australia has taken other treaty action.” It is hosted on Austlii. Treaties can be searched by subject, date or keyword, or search strings.  
<http://www.info.dfat.gov.au/treaties>

## ***(5) World Legal Resources in Environmental Law***

### **World Legal Information Institute**

“Free, independent and non-profit access to worldwide law”  
<http://www.worldlii.org/>

### **ASIL-EISIL - the Electronic Information System for International Law**

This resource was developed by the American Society of International Law. It has a section on international environmental law which has extensive links to primary and secondary sources.

[http://www.eisil.org/index.php?t=sub\\_pages&cat=185](http://www.eisil.org/index.php?t=sub_pages&cat=185)

It also has a useful research guide which has a chapter on international environmental law.

<http://www.asil.org/resource/env1.htm>

**Cornell University Law Library - Selected Foreign & International Resources for the Legal Researcher** provides access to foreign law sites, international organisations, topical guides and U.S Government sources on foreign and international law

<http://library2.lawschool.cornell.edu/ForeignLawGuide/default.aspx>

**Directory of Environmental Websites** - <http://www.earthdirectory.net/>

### **E-Law Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide**

This website provides access to legal and scientific resources throughout the world by region and by topic.

<http://www.elaw.org>

### **Hieros Gamos Law and Government Resources: Countries A – D**

This site has extensive links to legal materials all over the world.

<http://www.hg.org/1table.html>

### **International Environmental Law Research Centre (IELRC)**

“The International Environmental Law Research Centre is an independent research organisation focusing on international and comparative environmental law issues, with a particular emphasis on India and East Africa.” The web site contains documents such as articles, working papers and briefing papers.

<http://www.ielrc.org/>

### **Social Science Research Network - Legal Scholarship Network**

This site includes comprehensive links to a wide range of legal articles and reports with many focusing on environmental law from around the world. [www.ssrn.com/en/index.cfm/lsn/](http://www.ssrn.com/en/index.cfm/lsn/)

### **Washington University School of Law - Washlaw Legal Research on the Web**

This site has extensive links to legal materials all over the world

<http://www.washlaw.edu/>

### **Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore**

The Centre for International Law (CIL) was established as a university-level research institute at the National University of Singapore (NUS) in 2009 in response to the growing need for international law thought leadership and capacity-building in the Asia-Pacific

region. CIL works closely with the NUS Faculty of Law and is located within the Faculty's premises at the NUS Bukit Timah Campus.

[Research database - https://cil.nus.edu.sg/category-search/](https://cil.nus.edu.sg/category-search/)

**Search for documents within the CIL Documents Database. The database contains over 460 selected ASEAN documents and 260 International Law documents. It also includes over 130 selected Southeast Asian Investment documents, including Southeast Asian Investment Treaties and Southeast Asian Arbitration cases.**

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### **TEACHING LAW ONLINE – SOME HANDY RESOURCES**

Babacan, Alperhan. 'Teaching law to online law students at RMIT University.' *Turkish Online Journal of Distance Education* 12.2 (2011).

<http://dergipark.ulakbim.gov.tr/tojde/article/download/5000102414/5000095511>

Caron, Paul L, and Gely, Rafael. 'Taking Back the Law School Classroom: Using Technology to Foster Active Student Learning' *Journal of Legal Education* 54.4 (2004): 551-569.

Morse, Bradford W., 'Comparative law teaching through video conferencing', IUCN Academy of Environmental Law eJournal, Issue 5 (2014).

[http://www.iucnael.org/en/component/docman/?task=doc\\_download&gid=1138](http://www.iucnael.org/en/component/docman/?task=doc_download&gid=1138)

Perlin, Michael L. 'Online, distance legal education as an agent of social change.' *Pac. McGeorge Global Bus. & Dev. LJ* 24 (2011): 95.

<http://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1063&context=globe>

Xynas, Lidia. 'Approaching legal education in the online teaching and e-learning environment: a case study-taxation law.' *Journal of the Australasian Law Teachers Association* 4.1 & 2 (2011): 81-97. <http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/journals/JIALawTA/2011/8.pdf>

Sydney Law School, Legal Writing Online Resource:

[http://sydney.edu.au/law/learning\\_teaching/legal\\_writing/index.shtml](http://sydney.edu.au/law/learning_teaching/legal_writing/index.shtml)

**List of electronic resources references that are particularly useful to academics in Sri Lanka:**

The Ministry of Justice website has legislation, subsidiary legislation, agreements, case law, conventions and articles

<https://www.lawnet.gov.lk/>

The Supreme Court of Sri Lanka

<http://www.supremecourt.lk/>

The Court of Appeal of Sri Lanka

<http://courtofappeal.lk/>

Parliament of Sri Lanka

<http://parliament.lk/>

Ministry of MAhaweli Development and Environment

<http://www.mmde.gov.lk/>

Ministry of Sustainable Development and Wildlife

<http://msdw.gov.lk/>

Central Environmental Authority

<https://www.cea.lk/>

Sri Lanka Journals Online

<https://www.sljol.info/>

Institute of Policy Studies

<http://www.ips.lk/research/environment-natural-resources-agriculture/>

Department of Census and Statistics

<http://www.statistics.gov.lk/>

## List of electronic resources references that are particularly useful to academics in India:

1. Indian environmental law and policy
  - a. <http://indiacode.nic.in/> (Government of India webpage on all Indian legislation).
  - b. <http://www.moef.nic.in/> (Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change – gateway for all information of Indian environmental acts, rules and environmental impact assessment orders).
  - c. <http://nbaindia.org/> (National Biodiversity Authority portal for accessing all laws and orders of the NBA)
  - d. <http://cpcb.nic.in/> (Central Pollution Control Board – All standards and orders issued by the national body for the control of air, noise and water pollution in India).
  - e. <http://fra.org.in/> (Civil society website tracking the implementation of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (FRA)).
2. Judicial Decisions (Orders and Judgments):
  - a. <http://judis.nic.in/> (free official website for judgements of Supreme Court of India and several (not all) High Courts)
  - b. [http://www.greentribunal.gov.in/search\\_all\\_case.aspx](http://www.greentribunal.gov.in/search_all_case.aspx) (free official website for judgements and orders of the all benches of the National Green Tribunal).
  - c. <https://indiankanoon.org/> (free searchable website for Indian laws and judgements).
  - d. <http://www.manupatrafast.com/ipAccess.aspx> (paid website for Indian laws and judgements).
  - e. <http://www.sconline.com> (paid website for Indian laws and judgements).
3. Legal news and commentary
  - a. <https://barandbench.com/> (legal news and commentary on developments in Indian law).
  - b. <https://www.legallyindia.com/> (legal news and commentary on developments in Indian law).
  - c. <http://www.livelaw.in/> (legal news and commentary on developments in Indian law).
  - d. <https://vidhilegalpolicy.in/> (legal news and commentary on developments in Indian law).
  - e. <http://www.indiaenvironmentportal.org.in/> (news and commentary on Indian environmental law).
  - f. <http://www.cprindia.org/environmental-law-governance> (news and commentary on Indian environmental law).



- g. <https://namati.org/ourwork/environment/> (news and commentary on Indian environmental law).
- h. <http://www.indiatogether.org/c/environmental-law-and-regulation> (news and commentary on Indian environmental law).
- i. <http://www.indiawaterportal.org/> (news and commentary on Indian water law and regulation).
- j. <http://indiaclimatedialogue.net/> (news and commentary on climate change from the Indian subcontinent).
- k. <http://www.teriin.org/> (news and commentary on environment issues in the subcontinent).
- l. <http://www.conservationindia.org/> (news on wildlife conservation in India).

#### 4. Academic Resources

- a. <http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/> (searchable database of all academic thesis in India)
- b. <http://www.epw.in> (searchable database of academic writings including on environment in India)